

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
USSN 10/038,586
Attorney Docket Q67753
December 23, 2003

REMARKS

Claim 4 is pending in the application.

The title of the invention and the Abstract of the Disclosure have been amended in accordance with the suggestions set forth by the Examiner in the last Office Action. A new set of drawings is submitted herewith containing Figures 1-5 inclusive which include the changes previously approved on September 20, 2002.

In the last Office Action the claim was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The claim was further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art in Figure 1 in view of Griesbach et al. The claim has been amended to overcome the noted indefiniteness. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The claim as amended is specifically directed to a pressure sensitive element disposed in a compartment and is comprised of a pair of flexible electrically conductive strips separated by electrically insulating elements disposed between lateral longitudinal edges of the strips. The longitudinal projection which is disposed in a fixed central location relative to the pressure sensitive element. When pressure is applied to the pressure sensitive element the pressure sensitive element will bend about the longitudinal projection to bring the two electrically conductive strips into contact with each other.

The admitted prior art disclosed a similar pressure sensitive element but the projection was located on a portion of the compartment whereby the projection pressed against the

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outermost electrically conductive strip. The projection was designed to press the central portion of the electrically conductive strip inwardly to press it into engagement with the other electrically conductive strip. However, in actual operation the projection was readily displaced to one side or the other.

The principle of operation of the Griesbach et al. device is totally different from that of the present invention and it would not be the least obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of these two references. According to Griesbach, pressure sensitive element is comprised of a single pressure sensitive strip which will emit a signal upon the application of pressure thereto. The pressure due to an obstacle between the window and the whether strip is transmitted by two spaced apart members which press on opposite ends of the pressure sensitive element. In view of the differences, it is submitted that it would not be obvious that combine the teachings of Griesbach et al. with the prior art teachings of Figures 1-4. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the claim be allowed and the application passed to issue forthwith.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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